

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: May 9, 2007

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on April 27, 2007

FROM: Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Mary A. Gade
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities and training/conferences:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Removal Completion, Alum Creek Bike Path Drum Site, Columbus, Ohio

From April 17-19, 2007, a time-critical removal action was completed at the Alum Creek Bike Path site, Columbus, Ohio. Approximately 65 55-gallon drums and 30 1-to 5-gallon containers were excavated from the site. The removal action was performed to minimize the potential for exposure to polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), heavy metals, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the area of a new bike path. The buried drum area was discovered by the Franklin County Metroparks while constructing the new bike path, which parallels Alum Creek and will connect several local parks in the City of Columbus. Approximately 250 cubic yards of contaminated soil has been containerized in roll off boxes on site and is awaiting final disposal approval. The Metroparks completed final site restoration and hopes to continue the bike path construction project in the next few weeks. The containerized waste will be transported off site for disposal upon approval.

Contact: Jim Augustyn (440-250-1742)

Removal Start, Southern Medical Center, Cairo, Illinois

On April 10, 2007, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START), and Emergency Rapid Response Services (ERRS) arrived at the Southern Medical Center (SMC) site in Cairo, Illinois, to begin removal activities. The site contains three buildings: the main building, a former doctor's office building, and the incinerator building. The hazards of concern are various chemicals, elemental mercury, and asbestos. Outdoor air sampling was initiated by START using Gilian Pumps (for lab analytical) and DataRAMs. The particulate monitors were collocated in order to compare data obtained from both devices. The DataRAM monitors are being utilized with the Rapid Assessment Tool (RAT) and are displayed in real time within the command post. The monitors are being placed according to site conditions and according to the removal that is being conducted inside the building. On April 17, U.S. EPA held a media briefing to discuss the cleanup. ERRS and the asbestos contractor have begun their portions of the removal action. The main building is being screened by ERRS for mercury and any other possible contaminants that may be present inside the building. Any possible hazardous chemicals or medical wastes discovered are being centrally located inside the building for future disposal. Asbestos removal and hazard remediation work began in the incinerator building and has transitioned to the main hospital building.

Contacts: Kevin Turner (618-525-3665)
Jaime Brown (312-886-2256)

Removal Start, CMC Properties, Freeport, Illinois

On April 2, 2007, U.S. EPA began the time critical removal action at the CMC Properties site in Freeport, Illinois. The site contains 4,000 cubic yards of lead contaminated soil which will be excavated and chemically stabilized with lime kiln dust. Once confirmed to be non-hazardous, the soil will be disposed of at a local landfill. U.S. EPA's FIELDS (Field Environmental Decision Support) team headed by Patrick Hamblin and Eric Holbus has provided assistance in surveying and placing a grid on the site to assist the excavation and confirmation sampling efforts. In addition, the FIELDS team and On-Scene Coordinators have been utilizing X-Ray Florescence (XRF) units to aid in excavating contaminated soils above the Industrial Standard of 1,200 parts per million (ppm) for lead. Once the site is confirmed clean, U.S. EPA is planning to plant the site with native flowers and

grass and will use local students and volunteers to complete this work. Planned completion of the project is in early June of 2007. Once the removal action is completed the City of Freeport will begin constructing a bike path through the site.

On April 4, 2007, U.S. EPA held a press conference in conjunction with the City of Freeport, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, and local community leaders. The conference was well received. Two local TV stations and two local papers who carried front page stories on the clean-up project.

Contacts: Steve Faryan (312-353-9351)
 Jaime Brown (312-886-2256)
 Theresa Holz (312-886-6845)
 Ginny Narsete (312-886-4359)

Administrative Complaint Filed, Mickey's Linen and Towel Supply, Inc., Chicago, Illinois

On April 18, 2007, the U.S. EPA filed an Administrative Complaint against Mickey's Linen and Towel Supply, Inc., Chicago, Illinois. The Complaint alleges a violation of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) 312. On May 18, 2006, an inspection was conducted at Mickey's Linen and Towel Service in Chicago, Illinois, by staff of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section. During the inspection it was discovered that in 2003, 2004, and 2005, Mickey's Linen and Towel Supply, Inc., had quantities of sulfuric acid on site in excess of the Threshold Planning Quantity of 1,000 pounds. Mickey's Linen and Towel Supply, Inc., did not submit Hazardous Chemical Inventory forms to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) or the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)/Fire Department for 2003 and 2004, and submitted a late report (on or about May 17, 2006) for 2005 to the SERC but not the LEPC. The penalty is calculated for two counts past year violations of EPCRA 312 for failure to submit Tier forms for 2003 and 2004 to the SERC and LEPC/Fire Department for \$1,500, and two counts of current year violations of EPCRA 312 for failure to submit Tier reports to the SERC and LEPC/Fire Department for calendar year 2005, for \$32,238. The total penalty is \$35,238. Mickey's Linen and Towel Supply, Inc., will have 30 days to respond to the Complaint.

Contact: Ginger Jager (312-886-0767)

Public Availability Sessions, Feddeler Landfill, Lowell, Indiana

On April 10, 2007, the U.S. EPA, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and the Lake County Solid Waste Management District held two public availability Sessions for the Feddeler Landfill site at the Lowell Public Library in Lowell, Indiana. The sessions were held to inform the public of the results of recent environmental investigations at the site by the three agencies. Thomas Easterly, Director of IDEM, Lake County representatives, and U.S. EPA's On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) William Simes were available to answer questions about the landfill site. Approximately 150 persons attended the two sessions.

Contacts: William Simes (312-886-3337)
Janet Pope (312-353-0628)

Inspection Conducted, Tate & Lyle South Plant Lafayette, Indiana

On April 18, 2007, Edward Bordy, Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section conducted an inspection at the Tate & Lyle South Plant in Lafayette, Indiana. The purpose of the inspection was to review the facility's Risk Management Program for the storage and use of sulfur dioxide.

Contact: Edward Bordy (312-353-3191)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES

HazMat IQ Training, Farmington Hills Fire Department, Farmington Hills, Michigan

On April 24, 2007, On-Scene Coordinators Brian Kelly and Michelle Jaster participated in a HazMat IQ training program at the Farmington Hills Fire Department. The training was sponsored by several Metro Detroit Fire Departments and Hazardous Materials Teams, and over 60 personnel from multiple fire jurisdictions attended the training. HazMat IQ is a new response tool developed by several firefighters. The HazMat IQ system allows first responders to quickly evaluate chemical spills and rapidly select appropriate air monitoring equipment and personal protective gear.

Contacts: Michelle Jaster (734-692-7683)

Brian Kelly (734-692-7684)

Sustainable Development Presentation, 2007 ASTSWMO Mid-Year Meeting, Providence, Rhode Island

On April 24-25, 2007, at the invitation of the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO), Jim Van der Kloot gave a 1 1/2 hour presentation on sustainable development practices to the Superfund subgroup of ASTSWMO. About 70 people attended this session. The presentation covered the following issues: 1) why sustainable redevelopment is important for our programs; 2) designing to reduce water pollution; 3) designing to reduce air pollution; 4) green buildings; and 5) barriers and quantification needs. ASTSWMO members showed a very strong interest in the materials presented. Mr. Van der Kloot also spoke in a panel discussion on the second day of this conference.

Contact: Jim Van der Kloot (312-353-3161)

Inspector Roundtable, Lewis Center, Ohio

On April 25, 2007, U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Jon Gulch presented a case study to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA)-Division of Hazardous Waste Management (Ohio EPA-DHWM) Inspectors at the Highbanks Metropark in Lewis Center, Ohio. The case study focused on the referral of the Morrow Plating site in Toledo, Ohio, (from the OEPA-DHWM) to the U.S. EPA Emergency Response Branch and the subsequent removal action. The presentation also provided information on how time critical removals work and the options available to the Ohio EPA inspectors for abandoned sites that pose an imminent and substantial threat to the environment. Approximately 40 Ohio EPA-DHWM Inspectors and Managers attended the one-day training event.

Contact: Jon Gulch (734-692-7686)

Marathon Pipeline Tabletop Exercise, Indianapolis, Indiana

On April 19, 2007, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Walter Nied participated in Marathon Pipeline's Joint Oil Spill Emergency Response Tabletop Exercise, which was facilitated by their Emergency Preparedness Group. The event was modeled after the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety (DOT/OPS) exercising program in compliance with the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP) Guidelines and

met the Regulations of 40 CFR 112 and 33 CFR 154. The Drill Scenario involved the failure of a gasoline tank which released 80,000 barrels of product at their Indianapolis facility. This release scenario was challenging because the gasoline impacted two local creeks and evacuations were necessary. This exercise verified that Marathon has the resources to respond to a release that has a major environmental impact.

Contact: Walter Nied (312-886-4466)

"No Spills" Meeting, Indian River, Michigan

On April 19, 2007, the April meeting of the Northern Michigan Waterways Hazardous Material Spill Planning Committee was held. Chris Christenson of the Oil Section participated. The organization is the designated U.S. EPA sub-area planning entity for several of the counties in the northern Lower Peninsula and the eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The conference planning committee also met immediately following the regular meeting. A brochure describing the annual conference which has been held each January for the past 17 years has been prepared, which includes the schedule for the 2008 conference. Personnel attended from local county emergency management agencies, local county health agencies, the Michigan State police based locally, a publicly owned treatment works manager, U.S. Coast Guard Sector Sault Ste. Marie personnel, and a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality staff member.

Contact: Chris Christenson (312-353-6303)

Agency Participation, 57th Annual Chicago Public School Student Science Fair, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, Illinois

On March 23, 2006, Barb Carr (Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures Coordinator) was an exhibit judge from the U.S. EPA at the Chicago Public School's 57th Annual Student Science Fair held at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Illinois. The science fair showcases the best and brightest of the City's school students in grades seven through twelve in science, mathematics, and technology. Students competed with exhibits, models, demonstrations, papers, and oral presentations.

The theme of this year's science fair was "Envision Tomorrow Today with Science and Mathematics." About 300 students demonstrated their knowledge during the science fair. Fifty of these were selected by the judges to advance to the State Science Fair and

four will go on to compete at the international level. Each year over 300 judges from the scientific, academic, and business communities generously donate their time, effort, and expertise in order to objectively and professionally evaluate the most scientifically talented students from the Chicago Public Schools. There were specific guidelines for judging exhibits and scientific papers. Corporate sponsors included BP America Inc., ComEd, and The Motorola Foundation.

Contact: Barb Carr (312-886-7187)

Earth Day Event, Grosse Ile, Michigan

On April 22, 2007, Robert Buckley from U.S. EPA's Grosse Ile, Michigan, office participated in an Earth Day event at Centennial Farm on Grosse Ile. The event was sponsored by the Grosse Ile Recreation Department and the Grosse Ile Nature & Land Conservancy. Over 75 people of all ages attended, and approximately six environmental groups staffed information tables at the event. The event included a guided trail walk, games, activities, and two presentations regarding food chains and invasive species. U.S. EPA answered questions and handed out information regarding recycling and Earth Day.

Contact: Robert Buckley (734-692-7662)

Career Pathways Day, Allen Park Middle School, Allen Park, Michigan

On April 24, 2007, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC), Brian Schlieger participated in the Seventh Annual "Career Pathways Day" at the Allen Park Middle School in Allen Park, Michigan. Presentations were given to approximately 200 eighth-grade students. Presentations included information about interests and skills, required necessary education and training, various career opportunities within U.S. EPA, a general overview of the Agency, and specific functions of the Emergency Response Branch.

Contact: Brian Schlieger (734-692-7681)

cc: Susan Bodine (OSWER)
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